

M I D D L E E A S T A N D S O U T H A S I A R E V I E W

14 APRIL 1982

Temple Mount Incident Aftermath

Supreme Muslim Council Claim -- The east Jerusalem Supreme Muslim Council claimed on the basis of bullet marks that shots were fired from three directions and must have come from outside the area of the Temple Mount, Jerusalem radio reported. At a news conference convened by the council, eyewitnesses said there were three other armed Israelis in the vicinity in addition to Alan Goodman, and that they were responsible for one of the two fatalities, the radio added.

Palestinian Solidarity Day -- In his capacity as current chairman of the Islamic Conference Organization, Saudi Arabia's King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz appealed to all Muslims to suspend work on 14 April in solidarity with their brethren in the occupied territories and in protest of "Israel's disregard for the heavenly sanctities," according to SPA. Monitored media reported government announcements suspending work in Saudi Arabia, Lebanon, Jordan, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Bahrain, Iran, Sudan, Morocco and Mauritania. Iraq and Tunisia have declared a day of solidarity with the Palestinian people, according to INA and Tunis radio, respectively. Monitored Egyptian media have thus far not reported Egyptian participation in the Palestinian solidarity day, although airline flight postponements have been announced in response to airport closures in other Arab countries.

DFLP Operation -- The Martyr Kamal Nasir Group ambushed an Israeli military vehicle on the main road to Bet She'an in the Jordan Valley, destroying the vehicle and killing or wounding all of its occupants, a Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine communique reported by Damascus SANA announced. This operation was a response to the "Zionist enemy's barbaric crimes, culminating in the spoliation of the Al-Aqsa Mosque" and the firing on its worshipers, the communique said. Jerusalem radio's report of the 13 April infiltration denied any casualties or damage.

Israel

Ehrlich Interview, Shamir Remark -- We have authoritative information that the latest terrorist attacks are the work of the PLO and are not isolated or incidental but rather the result of a well-planned action to attack Israel and Israelis everywhere, Deputy Prime Minister Simha Ehrlich said in an interview reported by the Likud weekly YOMAN HASHAVU'A.

I and my generation will see the PLO disappear, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir told a Young Herut conference reported by the Jerusalem POST.

Begin Interviews -- The 11-point plan for solving the Palestinian problem submitted by Egypt at the nonaligned meeting in Kuwait includes "hostile propaganda" against Israel prohibited by the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty, Prime Minister Menahem Begin contended in an interview with MA'ARIV. The Camp David accords do not mention a Palestinian state, withdrawal to the 1967 borders or Arab sovereignty over Jerusalem, yet all three elements, "which are extremely hostile remarks," were included in Egypt's proposal, Begin explained. He also described the statement that after the Sinai withdrawal "a period of liberation of Arab land" will begin as "an obvious violation of the peace treaty." Asked in an interview with YEDI'OT AHARONOT whether Israel will complete the Sinai withdrawal on 25 April, Begin replied: We plan to abide by our international commitments. There are some things we must clarify with the Egyptians and the Americans. If we are completely satisfied, there will be no problem. If we are not, we will discuss the situation.

Egypt

Foreign Minister Kamal Hasaan 'Ali has announced Egypt's willingness to work to solve the outstanding problems between itself and Israel before the completion of the Sinai withdrawal, according to the Israeli paper HA'ARETZ. 'Ali stated that Israeli Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon will visit Egypt on 15 April to discuss the demarcation of the border in the Tabah area, MENA reported.

Lebanon

Attack Anticipation -- The convergence of foreign newsmen on Tel Aviv prompts us to believe that the Israeli aggression against southern Lebanon is imminent, UN Information Bureau Director Samir Sansar affirmed, according to the clandestine Voice of Palestine radio.

Israeli work to set up an infrastructure in the border area is continuing, Tel Aviv's HA'ARETZ reported citing unidentified sources. Two helicopter fields are being completed, one near Shu'bah and the other near Shab'a, the paper said.

Iran-Iraq-Syria Conflict

Military Situation -- Iranian pilots downed an Iraqi fighter plane west of Susangerd, a communique broadcast by Tehran radio reported.

Iraqi antiaircraft units shot down an Iranian fighter plane in the Ahvaz area, according to INA.

Alleged Airspace Violation -- Syrian warplanes violated Iraqi airspace four times on 12 and 13 April in an attempt to force Iraq into a side battle and divert its attention from the Iranian enemy, an Iraqi military spokesman charged in a statement reported by INA. Syria's violation has reached the level of "open aggression," Baghdad's AL-JUMHURIYAH claimed according to INA. Begin and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad are alike, and both are seeking to protect their Persian ally. The Damascus "Zionists" have reached a low level of moral degeneration, AL-JUMHURIYAH concluded. The Arab states should adopt deterrent measures against the Syrian regime, Baghdad's AL-'IRAQ proposed according to INA.

The airspace violation charge is a pure fabrication of the "regime of killers in Iraq," a Syrian military spokesman stated according to SANA.

Mediation Effort -- A Kuwaiti envoy met with President al-Asad and delivered a message from the amir of Kuwait, Damascus radio reported. It was officially stated in Kuwait that the message is part of Arab efforts to end the recent tension between Syria and Iraq, KUNA reported.

King Husayn Trip -- Jordan's King Husayn returned to Amman from visits to Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates, Amman radio reported. The talks dealt with Zionist repression in the occupied territories and with developments in the Iraqi-Iranian war and threats by the Iranian regime which endanger the security, stability and future of the Gulf, according to the radio.

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DOST MEETS WITH UN SECRETARY GENERAL'S ENVOY

LD131826 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 13 Apr 82

[Text] Shah Mohammad Dost, minister of foreign affairs, met this afternoon with Diego Cordovez, the UN secretary general's envoy, at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and exchanged views on topics of interest. Sakhi Daneshjo, deputy minister of foreign affairs, was also present.

Diego Cordovez and a delegation arrived in Kabul this morning. He was welcomed at Kabul International Airport by Sakhi Daneshjo, deputy minister of foreign affairs; the director in charge of UN and international relations in the Foreign Ministry; the director of publicity and information in the Foreign Ministry; the representative of the Foreign Ministry Protocol Department; and (Muler), UN Development Program caretaker representative in Kabul.

The UN secretary general's envoy has come to Afghanistan to continue talks begun by the secretary general and his envoy who had come to Afghanistan twice before.

At Kabul International Airport Diego Cordovez said: Although this is my first visit to Afghanistan, the nature of your beautiful homeland is not strange to me. I was brought up in a mountainous area so the beauty of your country is very interesting to me. Speaking on his mission he said: I hope that I will be able to better understand the position of Afghanistan after I have met with the Afghan authorities. I will not spare any efforts in searching for a way to solve the issues in the region.

The BAKHTAR information committee comments on the visit of the UN secretary general's envoy: Continuing the good-will efforts of the United Nations toward a peaceful settlement of the situation around Afghanistan and the special emphasis which UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar puts on the solution of these issues, the envoy of the UN secretary general arrived today in Kabul to continue the search for a political solution to the issues surrounding Afghanistan.

The BAKHTAR agency welcomes the visit of the special envoy of the UN secretary general to countries of the region, including our country, and considers it to be an effective effort toward finding a political solution of the issues around Afghanistan through direct negotiations.

The DRA's policy concerning the solution of the issues around Afghanistan is completely clear. We are desirous of a peaceful settlement through direct negotiations on all relevant aspects. The (?position) of the DRA in this regard has been clearly stated in its proposals of 14 May 1980 and 24 Aug 1981: The DRA, while welcoming the good-will efforts of the United Nations, considers the visit of the UN secretary general's special envoy to be indicative of his sincere interest in a peaceful solution of the issues around Afghanistan, a beneficial step toward continuing the search for a political solution to the issues.

The DRA, on its behalf will render every necessary cooperation toward the effectiveness and success of this mission and hopes that all interested parties will make constructive efforts toward the success of this mission.

AFP: DEAL SIGNED WITH FRANCE FOR MIRAGE-2000

BK140401 Hong Kong AFP in English 0340 GMT 14 Apr 82

[Text] New Delhi, 14 Apr (AFP) -- India has signed a 3,000 million U.S. dollar deal for the purchase of 40 Mirage 2000 fighter aircraft from France, UNITED NEWS OF INDIA (UNI) reported here today.

Under the contract, India would retain an option to undertake manufacture locally, it added.

The deal, signed between the Government of India and the manufacturers, Marcel Dassault, gives India the right to produce up to 110 aircraft at the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) centre in Bangalore, southern India, UNI said.

A well informed French source confirmed today that a document of "intention to proceed" was signed in Paris last week. An official announcement is expected tomorrow at the lower house of the Indian Parliament, according to an Indian source today.

The source said it was agreed between Paris and New Delhi that the first official announcement about the deal should be done in the Indian capital.

The first Mirage 2000 fighter aircraft would be delivered to the Indian Air Force by the end of 1984, UNI said. According to the source, the French authorities have assured that the Mirage 2000 would be inducted into the Indian Air Force almost at the same time it enters service with the French Air Force.

India and France signed a detailed memorandum of understanding on January 23 in New Delhi, under which the French authorities agreed to transfer all technology and a variety of weapons systems to India, including the Mirage 2000.

India and France have also agreed that a team of Indian fighter pilots and aircraft technicians would be sent to France shortly for training on the Mirage 2000 and its maintenance.

UNI said that with the signing of the intention to proceed, India had to make a down payment of 10.5 percent of the total cost of the contract. Meanwhile the French Government has given firm assurance to India, UNI said, that the down payment to be made by New Delhi to Marcel Dassault would be safe and that the full amount would be refunded to India if for any reason the manufacturers back out of the deal to supply the aircraft.

Along with the Mirage 2000, India would also get the Super Matra 530-D missile, the advanced navigation attack system and a host of other modern equipment, UNI said.

GANDHI INTERVIEWED ON UPCOMING TALKS WITH SAUDIS

GF131807 Riyadh AR-RIYADH in Arabic 12 Apr 82 pp 1, 19

[Interview granted by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi to AR-RIYADH correspondent Turki 'Abdallah as-Sidayri in New Delhi -- date not given]

[Text] Question: What kind of talks will you hold during your visit to Saudi Arabia?

Answer: I do not usually prepare an agenda for the talks I hold during my visits to various countries, but issues of interest to both sides are discussed during the talks.

My visit is not aimed at specifying certain demands, but we will try to improve bilateral relations to reach a better understanding.

Question: Developing relations means looking forward to establishing joint cooperation. Does this include the economic and industrial fields?

Answer: I cannot tell anything before the talks. Questions of discussion will appear during the talks and we hope to achieve a better situation. I met the crown prince in Cancun, in Mexico, during the North-South dialogue conference, but that meeting was very short. I hope the expanded talks will allow a wide exchange of views, especially since Saudi Arabia has an important international role and India is of special international importance, which makes me hope that the two countries will agree to a framework of useful cooperation.

Question: What is your opinion regarding the Saudi peace plan for the Middle East crisis?

Answer: The Saudi peace plan represents a new hope and we welcomed it here in India because it conforms with our country's basic principles which we have to stick to in order to bring about a solution to the crisis in the western Asia region, what you call the Middle East.

Question: A few years ago, the Government of Saudi Arabia established a number of projects for the big companies in the field of electricity. These companies cooperated with Indian companies to execute these projects. Do you expect better cooperation in the future?

Answer: Indian companies will execute many projects directly or through other bodies in various countries in the world, including the western Asia region. These projects are in different fields and comprise civil and technical construction, including power generation, communications and industrial establishments. I learned that a project for production of electrical equipment was executed by experts from our country and that Saudi Arabia expressed its appreciation of this project.

Anyhow, we are looking forward to further cooperation between the Indian and Saudi companies in the various fields, especially since the field of cooperation is very wide.

'HIGH-LEVEL' DELEGATION LEAVES FOR SAUDI ARABIA

BK131620 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 13 Apr 82

[Text] A high-level Indian delegation went to Saudi Arabia today [13 April] for discussions with the Saudi Government. The delegation will explore the possibilities of increasing bilateral ties with that country prior to the forthcoming visit of Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi. Mrs Gandhi is leaving for Saudi Arabia on Saturday [17 April].

The delegation, which is led by Minister of State for Railways Jaffer Sherif, includes the petroleum secretary and the commerce secretary.

ARGENTINE AMBASSADOR CALLS ON GANDHI 13 APR

BK131622 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 13 Apr 82

[Text] Argentine Ambassador to India Dr Fernandes Escalante called on Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi in New Delhi today.

He is understood to have explained to her his country's stand on the Falkland issue.

HAQ INTERVIEWED ON SITUATION IN REGION

PM131715 London SUNDAY TELEGRAPH in English 11 Apr 82 p 2

[Gordon Brook-Shepherd report on interview with President Mohammad Ziaul Haq in Islamabad; date not given: "How Ziaul Haq Is Stopping Russia's 'Red Lava'"]

[Excerpt] "Look where this has put the Russians! It's like lava, red lava, and the lava keeps moving!"

General Ziaul Haq produced a piece of thin red plastic cut out to match Afghanistan and suiting deeds to words he superimposed it on a "Brittania" map of Southeast Asia and joggled it around to symbolise what the Red Army's invasion of his northern neighbor had meant. It was, I gathered, a favorite device of his.

I need not have worried however, that the rest of his responses would be just as well rehearsed. That was near the beginning of 3 1/2 hours private talk with him -- one and a quarter in the sitting room of his Islamabad residency followed by two and a quarter more around his dinner table.

It was all spontaneous conversation and not once did he request a single word to be treated off the record (though one anxious aide did plead afterwards for the odd name and sensitive detail to be left out). In more than 30 years of talking to political leaders all over the place, I have never known such candour.

Thus, in the course of the evening, he described at length the Kremlin's various political ploys towards him in the wake of the invasion -- ploys which were a mixture of stick and carrot.

Strong Pressure

There had been very strong Russian pressure on him to go to Kabul and parley with Babrak Karmal, the communist puppet premier there, pressure which he had firmly rejected. The Soviet Union had also tried to wield the stick over the 2,500,000 Afghan refugees on his soil, largely because of the role they still play in the anti-Russian guerrilla war.

"Their first tactic was to tell me to close the border -- just seal it. I told them this was physically impossible for us and asked why they, with far more resources, didn't try themselves. After all, you can shut a door from both sides.

"They had to admit they couldn't do it either. Later on they tried a completely new tack. They suggested that instead I move all 2,500,000 back from the border interior, but first throw all their leaders into jail! Needless to say, I rejected that as well."

The "carrot" has consisted of an offer to Pakistan to "let Russia defend her" by joining the Soviet scheme for an Asian collective security pact which Moscow would guarantee. That way, the siren song went, Pakistan would not need any expensive new American arms at all.

"No thank you! was my answer to that," the general commented crisply.

As for America and the expensive new arms and themselves (the most costly are 40 F-16 aircraft of which a mere six will be delivered before the end of the year), he made it clear from the word go in the talks with Washington that Pakistan would give no quid pro quo through allowing American bases on her soil.

"We will fight if attacked and if 85 million Pakistanis cannot defend their country, then nobody can. All we ask for are the weapons.

He had laid down two other arms talks conditions with the White House (which he said he had forewarned, in two separate letters to President Carter in 1979, that the Red Army would soon march on Kabul). These were that Pakistan should be dealt with entirely on its own merits and that India "should not be allowed to veto anything." The Americans had agreed, and had also apparently accepted that what the president called "our modest nuclear programme" should not be a hindrance.

India: The talk always swings back to India, in the president's house as in the ministries outside. At a lunch given for me by one of those ministries two days previously the company had been celebrating their country's 4-0 victory over India at hockey, at which Pakistanis are undisputed world champions.

"Who would you rather beat at hockey," I had asked, "India or the Soviet Union?" To a man they had replied "India, of course!"; and the truth is that on the military field as on the hockey field, Pakistan's most pressing test of strength is still with New Delhi. Russia is known to be building up a strategic infrastructure in Afghanistan which will threaten to dominate the entire region in two or three years' time.

But the here and now is that no fewer than 25 of India's 30 divisions are massed on or behind her frontier with Pakistan and if those Indian divisions marched, they would be doing Russia's military job for her.

In the meantime, Mrs Gandhi, by refusing to accept that the Red Army garrison in Afghanistan are even invaders, is doing Russia's propaganda job for her.

The president seems puzzled as well as worried by this. "The one long talk I have ever had with her," he told me, "was when we met at Salisbury for the Zimbabwe independence celebrations and at the end she assured me that a strong and independent Pakistan was very much in India's interest. And, of course, on the domino principle, it must be. So why then play the Russian game?" Her father, I reminded him, had had the same blind spot.

Ties With China

There was of course the solace and the solid aid which sprang from Pakistan's ties with China. What did the Chinese feel about Afghanistan?

"Oh," he replied, "they are always telling me: 'Don't be afraid of the big Russian bear. Keep shouting at him and he won't go for you.'" But, added the president, even the Chinese had had to admit to him that some of the long-term things the Russians were up to in Afghanistan were "very serious."

While we were in China, I asked him about Mr Brezhnev's latest olive branch to Peking. Would it have any serious effect? "I doubt it. Formal inter-state relations may get closer to normal but the fundamental breach will remain. After all, if China defied the Soviet Union when she herself was so weak, why should she make everything up today, when she is so much stronger?"

HAQ: KASHMIR ISSUE 'INTERNATIONAL PROBLEM'

BK140642 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 14 Apr 82

[Text] President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq has said that Pakistan is ready to hold bilateral talks with India on all issues except Kashmir, which is an international problem.

In an interview with Indian journalist Kuldeep Nayer, he said that there was not any restriction imposed on Pakistan in the Simla Agreement which could prohibit it from raising the Kashmir issue at the international level.

The president said that should India announce its rejection of our no-war pact offer, Pakistan would consider a friendship pact with it. He said the issue of no-war pact should be considered as a first step and the proposal to set up a joint commission of the two countries can be discussed later.

PLANS FOR CHASHMA NUCLEAR COMPLEX REVIVED

BK140646 Hong Kong AFP in English 0631 GMT 14 Apr 82

[Text] Islamabad, 14 Apr (AFP) -- Pakistan is to go ahead with a nuclear power project at Chashma, with a generating capacity of 937 megawatts, almost 50 percent more than planned in an earlier project, official sources said today.

The project, costing over 1,600 million dollars, will be completed by mid 1988, they said. Chashma is some 250 kms (160 miles) south of here.

An original project, planned under executed former Premier Zulfikar Ali Bhutto in 1976, called for a 600-megawatt nuclear complex including a fuel reprocessing plant from France.

The plan was abandoned owing to stiff opposition from the United States, which feared Pakistan might acquire the ability to detonate an atomic bomb. Former French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing suspended the deal despite Pakistan's assurances that its nuclear program was geared at peaceful purposes.

No details were given about the new set up, but official sources stressed that nuclear generation was vital owing to an acute shortage of power. With the high cost of oil, nuclear power was the only economical alternative for Pakistan, the sources said.

Pakistan has a first nuclear power plant in Karachi, the country's largest city.

MINISTER SAYS TERRORIST ACTIVITIES DECREASING

BK110646 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 10 Apr 82

[Text] Federal Interior Minister Mahmud Haroon has said terrorist activities in the country are on the decrease. Addressing a news conference in Islamabad this afternoon he said there were many factors for the decrease. These included the unwillingness of those recruited for the purpose, more security measures and follow-up action. In reply to a question as to whether the government was aware of the Al-Zulfikar activities in Kabul, he said these might not be the only terrorist organizations based in Kabul. There may be others as well. However, the Interior Ministry was concerned with the checking of terrorist activities inside the country.

Replying to a question, he said no one in authority had ever spoken against elections. He emphasized that holding of elections was imperative and there could be no method other than that of adult franchise. He, however, said elections could be held when conditions were conducive.

In reply to another question, the minister said those responsible for desecration of the holy Koran would be tried according to the new law which provided for life imprisonment.

Replying to another question, he said the number of political detainees which recently stood at 62 has gone down. He said as for the crackdown in various provinces against antistate and antisocial activities, all those against whom there was no evidence had either been released or were being released. He emphatically declared that no detainee was tortured. He said if any case of torture was brought to his notice, strong action would be taken against those responsible.

IRANIANS EXPRESS SOLIDARITY WITH PALESTINIANS

Khomeyni Statement

LD140908 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0655 GMT 14 Apr 82

[Statement issued by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni "in support of the risen people of the occupied lands in Palestine" -- read by unidentified speaker]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The issue of Jerusalem is not a personal one; it is not confined to one country; at this time it is confined to the world Muslims; it is an issue for the world's monotheists and the religious persons of the past, the present and the future, from the day that the foundations of the Al-Aqsa Mosque were laid, for as long as this planet travels in the system of life.

How painful it is for the Muslims of the world today, with all the material and spiritual facilities at their disposal, to witness such an insult to Almighty God and His esteemed prophets by a bunch of criminal hooligans, and how shameful it is for the Islamic governments -- who have a stranglehold on the world superpowers to sit and watch America -- that supercriminal of history -- set a corrupt and worthless being against them, usurp their holy places of prayers and their prime sanctuary with a small group of people, and with the utmost impudence flex its muscles in front of all of them. How shameful it would be to keep silent in the face of this great historic catastrophe; and how beautiful it would have been if the loudspeakers of the Al-Aqsa Mosque had come to life from the very day when Israel -- that corrupt entity -- embarked on this great crime.

Now that the revolutionary and brave Muslims of Palestine, with sublime zeal and a divine slogan, have risen in the ascension place of the last prophet of God, have invited the Muslims to unite and rise, and have staged a movement against world blasphemy, by what justification and on the basis of which aware conscience of humanity can one be indifferent to this Islamic deed in front of the omnipotent God?

Now that the blood of the dear youths of Palestine has painted the walls of the Jerusalem mosque, when their just demands have been answered by the machineguns of a bunch of charlatans, would it not be disgraceful for the zealous Muslims not to heed their meek calls and not to declare their solidarity with them?

Let their shouts of sympathy awaken the governments, so that they will utilize the great Islamic power and sever the hand of America, that criminal of history who from across the seas shakes the evil hands of the Israelis in support of the oppressors, and let them save themselves and the meek nations of the world. It is hoped that the beneficent God will favor mankind and fulfill His Koranic promise as soon as possible and make the world oppressed victorious over the oppressors.

Hail to Jerusalem and to the Al-Aqsa Mosque! Hail to the nations who have risen against the criminal Israel, and hail to the Muslims and oppressed people of the world!

[Signed] Ruhollah Musavi-Khomeyni

Khamene'i Comments

LD132158 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 13 Apr 82

[Excerpt] According to the Central News Unit, Hojjat ol-Eslam Malakuti, the imam's representative and the Friday imam of Tabriz, met President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i today. The imam was accompanied by the Friday imams of the cities and regions of East and West Azarbayjan.

During this meeting Mr Khamene'i spoke on a number of movements in the Middle East, saying: Since the leaders of these movements have not been able to use Islam as their guide in the past, their movements have sometimes leaned toward the right or the left. They lacked the decisiveness and uncompromising character of the revolution, the leader of the revolutionary nation and the Government of Iran. Today, however, the Palestinian people's movement has begun with the slogans: "God is great," or "Unite, unite Oh Muslims." No doubt it will continue and bear fruit.

He said this movement might take a long time because of the situation in the region and the presence of an evil regime about which the East and West have reached an understanding. However, since it has begun in the name of God and relying on Islam's precepts, it will eventually have positive results.

Our country's president said: We advise our Palestinian brothers to beware lest the enemies take Islam away from them and to base every step on Islamic ideology and the Islamic movement. No excuse for failure to set up an Islamic regime -- such as the presence of non-Muslims among the Muslim Palestinian nation -- would be acceptable. In the early days of Islam, Islamic regimes existed in that region which treated non-Muslims very kindly and were warmly welcomed by them.

Mr Khamene'i added: I recommend that the Friday imams deal with the Palestinian issue during this week's Friday prayers. He said: The Palestinian people's movement is today a great movement and we should give the Palestinians -- who are strangers in their own land -- all possible assistance.

Rafsanjani Addresses Majlis

LD131234 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 13 Apr 82

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Today's open session of the Islamic Majlis, which began with a recitation from the holy Koran, was chaired by Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the speaker of the Majlis. He made a speech and said:

[Begin recording] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Fortunately, the people of Palestine have found their way after a long delay. As all the people and our champion nation know, Al-Aqsa Mosque is the center of this great movement. The path the people of Palestine have chosen to restore their rights and the method they have adopted for their struggle is (?hopeful).

We advise the people of Palestine not to allow their struggle and the method they are using to be manipulated politically, nor allow their path to be diverted. We have happy memories from our experiences in this respect and the world [word indistinct] knows these experiences. You have started from a good point [words indistinct] and efforts might be made to divert your struggle and steal your slogans.

We advise the Islamic nations, especially the leaders of the Islamic countries, not to take advantage of, or use the struggle of the Palestinian people to their own ends or to save face, or -- God forbid -- they might be used by the great Satan to penetrate this struggle and divert the people from their path. We will stand by this advice and [words indistinct]. Of course, it is the duty of all the Muslims of the world, freedom seekers and leaders of Islamic countries to support this movement with all their might. But support is quite different from opportunism, or trying to influence or divert a movement. Further advice we would like to give is that the Muslim nations and governments should support this movement, which will surely result in the liberation of Palestine, this center of [word indistinct] of the world of Islam, and this support should not be limited to verbal expressions.

We suggest that all Islamic countries should further extend support for this movement -- it is rumored that tomorrow, Wednesday, there will be a general strike throughout the world of Islam. We ask the Islamic Government of Iran to take the initiative in this holy act and provide all available facilities to properly present the holy movement of the Palestinian nation and Jerusalem. The Iranian nation always hoped for this point in the struggle -- this hope is now realized and, tomorrow, the Iranian nation will certainly express its support.

What is more important is that the people of Palestine should note that if they are not present in the arena themselves, no positive action can be taken to benefit them from outside. If they come to the arena, then all others are forced to follow them. The Palestinian movement is one that no Muslim can remain indifferent toward; no Muslim can keep away from it.

Do not be afraid of sacrificing martyrs. Do not be afraid of the cruelty of the Israelis. Israelis helped the [word indistinct] shah of Iran to slaughter the people of Iran in Shohada Square; the people of Iran stood in front of the Israeli weapons in Shohada Square during the revolution. Such cruelty achieved nothing then and will achieve nothing now. This movement which was begun should end with the liberation of Palestine and the holy land. Peace be upon you all. [end recording]

Public Holiday Declared

LD131410 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 13 Apr 82

[Excerpt] Following a request by the Majlis speaker to the effect that our expression of support for the uprising of the oppressed Palestinian people must be reiterated, Prime Minister Musavi, on behalf of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, declared tomorrow, Wednesday, 14 April, a public holiday.

Marches Urged

GF131822 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 13 Apr 82

[Text] Following the release of the government statement today on the declaration of Wednesday, 14 April, as a public holiday in support of the Palestinian people, the Islamic information coordination council has issued a statement calling on the Iranian people to participate in marches that will be held on 14 April in support of the Palestinian people's uprising against the Zionist occupation.

Guards Corps Statement

LD131752 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 13 Apr 82

[Excerpts] According to the Central News Unit, on the occasion of the uprising of the Muslim and heroic people of Palestine, the Central Islamic Revolution Guards Corps has issued a statement which states in part:

Shouting Islamic slogans, choosing mosques as bases for the revolution and staging general strikes in occupied Palestine show the glory and greatness of the Islamic revolution, which continues its growth and expansion despite the feeble efforts of world blasphemy, and frees all oppressed nations of the world from the bonds of slavery.

A new dimension has been opened in the struggles of the people of Palestine, following the aims of the Muslim and martyr-nurturing nation of Iran -- who from the outset of their Islamic movement have shouted: "Today Iran, tomorrow Palestine."

At this historic time, the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps hopes that soon -- with the ending of the war imposed by the American Saddam on the Islamic revolution of Iran and the downfall of the puppet, criminal regime ruling Iraq -- it can be present alongside the combative Palestinian brothers to fight against the regime occupying Jerusalem, to defend the sublime, Islamic aims to liberate the dear Jerusalem from the claws of the Zionist oppressors and to make true the words of Imam Khomeyni, the great leader of the Islamic Revolution, and the wish of the Islamic nation that: "Israel must be destroyed."

KHOMAYNI ADDRESSES FRIDAY PRAYER LEADERS

LD132028 Tehran IRNA in English 1939 GMT 13 Apr 82

[Text] Tehran, 13 Apr (IRNA) -- If there were an Islamic government in any one country then the superpowers could not usurp the resources of that country, said Imam Khomeyni, leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, when he received his representative and Friday prayer leader of Tabriz, Hojjat ol-Eslam Sheykh Muslim Malakuti; the prosecutor general of the Islamic revolution, Hojjat ol-Eslam Musavi-Tabrizi; along with other Friday prayer leaders of Azarbayjan in Hoseyniyeh Jamaran in Tehran today.

The imam added that the superpowers could do nothing in such a country unless Islam became weak and the ulema were destroyed.

"In the time in which we are living no one can find a government, a people and an ulema like those we have in Iran, he assured his visitors. He went on to say that no president could be found similar to Iran's, who is an Islamic religious scholar and truly interested in the ulema. Also, he added, no government could be found which was being supported by its people as much as Iran's was.

Referring to (?Friday) prayers Imam Khomeyni said, "the Friday prayers awakened the people and put them on the alert....You realised how the situation of Iran was in the past as well as weighing the position of any government in any country." Recalling the Qajar period the imam said that having seen the Qajar governments, and the one that succeeded them, it was clear that each of these regimes believed that it commanded all the people's lives and properties and brooked no opposition from them.

Imam Khomeyni added that most of the foreign powers were against the Islamic Republic of Iran and were all trying to destroy Islam in this country. For an example he cited, "the Egyptian ruler has said that he would destroy any word in favour of Islam because he didn't consider it expedient."

Recalling what the British imperialists did in Iraq in the past the imam said: "They used to destroy whatever they found harmful to the British in that time because they considered themselves the greatest in the world. And this is what is being done by U.S. imperialism during the present, similar to what the British did in the past."

Referring to Azarbayjan's unique history the leader of the revolution said: "In that region Iran had a neighbour with a particular nature and Azarbayjan stood like a wall always against what might have happened. And so it should remain and even more so." The imam further urged Azarbayjan's ulema to keep the people aware and alert because he said that as long as the people remained in the scenes they could not be harmed.

He said also: "Some say that now the situation is worse than it was in the time of the shah," adding that, "such things are being voiced by the U.S. through those persons' mouths."

KHAMENE'I RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM BENDJEDID

GF140430 Tehran International Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 13 Apr 82

[Text] President Khamene'i today received Abdelkarim Ghraieb, the Algerian ambassador in Tehran, who gave the president a message from Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid. In his message, President Bendjedid emphasizes Algeria's support for the Islamic Republic of Iran.

TEHRAN ON SADDAM'S DEMAND FOR GUARANTEES

GF130915 Tehran International Service in Turkish 1830 GMT 12 Apr 82

[Unattributed commentary: "About the Speech Saddam Made Yesterday"]

[Excerpts] Dear listeners: The speech Saddam Husayn made over Iraqi radio and television yesterday has not only helped bring to light the inhuman character of the Iraqi Ba'thists but has also revealed the fact that the Ba'thist administration is at an impasse resulting from the recent defeats it has suffered at the battlefronts of the imposed war. The tone in Saddam's speech yesterday has also shed light on the extent that the heroic resistance and struggle of the Islamic fighters have been able to expose the disgusting and inimical character of the Iraqi Ba'thist regime to the Muslim Iraqi people.

Ever since the Iraqi call for a cease-fire because of the prolongation of the imposed war, political observers have been confident that Saddam and the rest of the Ba'thist lackeys had arrived at the end of their existence. One important aspect of the speech Saddam made yesterday is that it has brought to light many facts which have been unknown to the Iraqi people -- one of which is that the fall of the Ba'thist regime is very near because of the latest defeats it has suffered at the hands of the Islamic fighters. Furthermore, the Iraqi people have realized that the victory they expect to achieve through their struggle is also very close.

Saddam's demand for international guarantees against any threat from Iran in the event he agrees to Iranian conditions reveals how much he dreads Iraqi Muslims, but Saddam knows better than anyone else that the Islamic Republic of Iran will never attack Iraqi soil. The Islamic Republic of Iran has given such a guarantee to the Iraqi people by refraining from bombing any target they liked while flying over Iraqi cities. In fact, instead of dropping bombs, Iranian aircraft dropped pamphlets carrying messages of unity and fraternal relations.

The fact that the Iraqi people's economic enterprises have been totally destroyed and their wealth completely wasted and that Iraq has incurred foreign debts in addition to losing tens of thousands of its youths -- some of whom have been killed while the rest have either been wounded or captured -- is not an issue which can be easily overlooked. The Iraqi people, who, as a result of the victories achieved by the Islamic fighters at the battlefronts have become aware of all the crimes committed by the infidel Ba'thists, will undoubtedly not allow criminal Ba'thists to trifle with their fate any more.

Hasn't Saddam, who has currently begun talking about and expressing preparedness to withdraw from the Iranian soil he has occupied, violated the agreement reached in Algeria which stipulates that Iran and Iraq should meet in Algeria in the event of any disagreement between the two sides and reach a negotiated solution? What was the cause of his attack on Iranian soil without attaching any importance at all to the provisions of the agreement reached in Algeria and putting forward unfounded excuses?

The Iraqi people are aware of the fact that Saddam's move to equate the condition of Iraqi prisoners of war in Iran with the situation of the prisoners of war in World War II is unfounded and cannot be described as anything but slander.

The Iraqi people know well that the refuge the Iraqi Muslim troops have sought in Iran constitutes the commencement of a move aimed at ridding the Iraqi people of the Ba'thist chains of captivity. After the disgusting and bad character of the Ba'thists -- particularly of Saddam -- became known, the Iraqi people ceased to believe that the surrender of their sons to Islamic forces meant captivity. The Iraqi people, just like those of Iran, regard them as forces which have rid themselves from the bondage of the infidel Ba'thist regime.

The Muslims of the Iran are aware of the situation of the Iraqi people. In fact, they will not allow the fate of the Iraqi people to become an instrument serving the interests of imperialist forces. No matter how much Saddam has tried to pose as innocent in order to win the Iraqi people's support, he has failed to influence the Iraqi Muslims. The Iraqi people's indifference toward Saddam's speech is indicative of the fact that they have regained their Islamic character at a time when Saddam's fall is imminent and have actually established the kind of regime they want to have in the future.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE 853

LD131740 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 13 Apr 82

[Communique 853 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. According to air force reports, the brave pilots and self-sacrificing heroes shot down one of the invading planes of the aggressive Iraqi Army at 1415 yesterday in the sector west of Susangerd. They also neutralized other air attacks by the Iraqi forces in all the western and southern areas and forced them to flee.

The brave soldiers of Islam and the victorious combatants of the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the southern fronts bravely defended their defensive positions. While increasingly strengthening their positions, they returned enemy artillery and tank fire. Along the southern fronts, these forces dealt effective blows at the Iraqi forces, halting the enemy's movements and activities.

On the Abadan and Khorramshahr fronts, the gendarmerie returned fire against the Saddamists, destroying five trenches and foxholes, one 82-mm mortar and one enemy truck, setting one enemy ammunition dump on fire in the [word indistinct] sector and killing or wounding a considerable number of the aggressive forces.

Yesterday, as on previous days, Abadan was hit by the heavy-weapon fire of the Saddamist mercenaries. Our forces and the Saddamist aggressors continued to exchange fire on the western fronts, but on the Meymak front the battle was most intense. On all the fronts our victorious heroes silenced enemy fire and inflicted losses and casualties. One cannon and a number of enemy vehicles were destroyed and a number of weapon emplacements were set on fire.

On the Sumar front, one tank and a number of supply depots were destroyed and a number of Iraqi personnel were killed.

Also, on the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab front, one tank and a quantity of ammunition were destroyed.

On the Gilan-e Gharb front, the Islamic combatants destroyed one 106-mm gun and one engineering vehicle, killing a number of their personnel, and damaged one truck and one cannon.

On the Marivan front, fire on enemy positions in the Biarreh sector and on the Toveyleh supply road destroyed one truck and three Iraqi assembly points.

AFP: 90 KURDS KILLED, 33 ARRESTED 12 APR

NC140905 Paris AFP in English 0829 GMT 14 Apr 82

[Text] Tehran, 14 Apr (AFP) -- About 90 members of the banned Iranian Kordestan Democratic Party (IKDP) were killed or wounded and 33 arrested by Iranian Government forces on Monday in Kordestan, northwest Iran, ISLAMIC REPUBLIC reported today.

The clashes came in police raids on three villages near Miando'ab in eastern Kordestan, part of a "clean-up operation," the ruling Islamic Republican Party newspaper said.

A further 14 dissidents were killed when fighting broke out yesterday between Iranian revolutionary guards and "factions paid by the United States and members of the IKDP" in two villages near the Kordestan capital of Sanandaj, ISLAMIC REPUBLIC said. Two guards also died in the fighting.

VOICE OF IRAN ON BANDAR-E ABBAS CLASHES

NC130815 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 1805 GMT 12 Apr 82

[Text] Violent clashes have broken out between opponents of the regime and revolution guards. Travelers arriving in Shiraz from Bandar-e Abbas report that dozens of the regime's opponents have clashed with revolution guards and that several people have been arrested as counterrevolutionaries and handed over to the local revolution court.

So far, the regime's propaganda media have not reported the clashes. According to our correspondent in Tehran, a brief report on the incident appeared in the last issue of the newspaper ETTELA'AT claiming that the opponents were members and supporters of the hypocrites. The newspaper wrote that 50 members of the higher echelons of the hypocrites organization and their supporters have been arrested in Bandar-e Abbas.

AFGHAN INSURGENTS' ATTACK ON HERAT REPORTED

LD110816 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 11 Apr 82

[Text] Sources close to the Muslim Afghan combatants have announced that their forces killed or wounded 80 government soldiers in an attack on the city of Herat in western Afghanistan. According to these sources, a contingent of 270 combatants, after planting mines in the main roads near Herat, attacked enemy positions and severely disrupted the movement of troop columns. The combatants set fire to 30 vehicles, destroyed 8 tanks and seized a large quantity of arms and ammunition as spoils of war.

Another report states that the Muslim combatants attacked the Soviet invading forces in (?Ruzgan) Province, killing 18 of them.

BRIEFS

ARMS ACCESSORIES MANUFACTURE -- The technical committee of the Fars reconstruction crusade has manufactured 10,000 components and spare parts for arms since October 1981. These include: Triggers for 120-mm heavy mortar launchers, door levers for M-60 tanks, adaptors for inflating airplane tires, pressure control vents for C-130 aircrafts, logistical accessories for the ground forces, production of samples and eliminating shortages of 100 accessories required by the armed forces and other equipment required for the war of truth versus falsehood. [Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1530 GMT 13 Apr 82 GF]